

Arizona Reading Standard Performance Level Descriptors Grade 3 Alternate Assessment

The performance descriptors are based upon the utilization of grade-level appropriate reading materials.

Exceeds the Standard – Students with significant cognitive disabilities who score in this level illustrate skills commensurate with typical third grade students meeting standards on the general assessment. Students who perform at this level demonstrate the ability to determine the meaning of words, identify character traits, setting, and the sequence of events, evaluate written directions for completeness, and interpret information in functional text.

Meets the Standard – Students who score in this level and supported through the use of pictures and objects, demonstrate an understanding of subject matter as reflected by the reading standard. Students who perform at this level are able to determine the meaning of simple words, identify character traits, setting, and the sequence of events in a literary selection heard or read. In addition, they are able to sequentially follow multi-step directions and evaluate completeness of task using picture cues.

Approaches the Standard – Students who score in this level and supported through the use of pictures and objects show partial understanding of the knowledge and application of the skills that are fundamental for proficient work. Students who perform at this level show some understanding of the alphabet, determine the meaning of simple words using pictures and information from the text. They are able to interpret information in maps to find locations in the school environment.

Falls Far Below the Standard – Students who score in this level may have significant gaps and limited knowledge and skills that are necessary to satisfactorily meet the state's reading standard. Students will usually require a considerable amount of additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a satisfactory level of understanding.

Students at the "Exceeds the Standard" level generally know the skills required at the "Meets" and "Approaches" levels and are able to:	Students at the "Meets the Standard" level generally know the skills required at the "Approaches" level and are able to:	Students at the "Approaches the Standard" level generally know and are able to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine the meanings of words.• Identify synonyms and antonyms.• Describe characters within a literary selection.• Sequence a series of events in a literary selection.• Interpret information from graphic features.• Follow a set of multi-step directions in order.• Evaluate written directions for sequence and completeness.• Interpret information in functional text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use context clues to determine the meaning of simple words.• Match ten words and pictures that have opposite meanings.• Describe character traits and roles.• Retell story, placing events in correct sequence.• Explain information from graphic features related to grade-level content of expository text.• Sequentially follow a 4-step set of directions (e.g., recipes, center directions, classroom procedures, science experiments) using picture cues.• Determine whether a specific 4-step task is completed by checking to make sure all of the steps were followed in the right order, with picture cues to assist.• Interpret information in maps and schedules for a specific purpose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use picture cues to determine the meaning of 5 simple words.• Match symbols/pictures that represent opposite concepts.• Describe character traits.• Sequence a series of events in a story, given three pictures.• Point to information from graphic features related to grade-level content that are found in the school environment.• Sequentially follow a 3-step set of directions (e.g., recipes, center directions, classroom procedures, science experiments) using picture cues.• Determine whether a specific 3-step task is completed by checking to make sure all of the steps were followed in the right order, with picture cues to assist.• Interpret information in maps for a specific purpose in the school environment.

These descriptors do not include all the skills and knowledge as contained in the Reading Standard.